

Message Text

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ORIGIN OC-03

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DRAFTED BY: A/OC/NEA: GJGENDRON

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P 172144Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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FOR RCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT KUWAIT 4450 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS

17 OCT

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 4450

DEPT FOR NEA/EX AND OC

ATHENS FOR ATO

FROM EMBASSY DOHA

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ACOM QA

SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS FOR EMBASSY DOHA

1. AT EMBASSY DOHA'S URGENT REQUEST, ATO ATHENS ENGINEER JOSEPH ZANIN VISITED DOHA OCT 7-9 TO DETERMINE WHAT ALTERATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY COMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION, AND TO REVIEW PLANS FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATION. WE APPRECIATE ATO NESS' PROMPT RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST, AND ATO'S "CAN AND WILL DO" ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEM. ZANIN VISIT MOST HELPFUL IN PLANNING NEXT STEPS.

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2. RE TEMPORARY INSTALLATION, IT WAS DETERMINED IT COULD BE MADE WITH A MINIMUM OF DISRUPTION AND DISFIGURATION TO THE BUILDING AND WE WISH TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST IS \$6,600 BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS: \$2,00 FOR INSTALLING A 100 AMP THREE PHASE SINGLE DISCONNECT BOX AT THE POWER SOURCE AND RUNNING A LINE TO THE PROPOSED C&R ROOM AND THEN INSTALLING A DOUBLE DISCONNECT BOX IN THAT ROOM; \$1,400 FOR THE FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF DOORS AND CURTAINS TO C&R ROOM; \$3,200 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF ANTENNA MASTS, WEATHERHEADS AND ANTENNA WIRE SUPPORTS. IF THE PRESENT AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM DOES NOT SUFFICIENTLY COOL THE EQUIPMENT AFTER IT IS INSTALLED, AN AIR CONDITIONER AND GRILLS FOR IT WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED FOR THE C&R ROOM. COST ESTIMATE FOR A/C, SHOULD IT BE NEEDED, IS \$800.

3. AUTHORIZATION AND FISCAL DATA ARE REQUESTED ON A PRIORITY BASIS FOR THE TEMPORARY INSTALLATION. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT EQUIPMENT FOR TEMPORARY COMMO INSTALLATION IS READY AND CAN BE FLOWN TO DOHA EARLY IN NOVEMBER IF NECESSARY ALTERATIONS CAN BE COMPLETED. WOULD APPRECIATE QUICK AND POSITIVE REPLY ON FUNDS FOR WORK AS OUTLINED IN PARA 2 ABOVE. AUTHORIZATION SHOULD BE TELEPHONE TO US TO EXPEDITE MATTERS.

4. RE PERMANENT INSTALLATION, ZANIN ADVISED US THAT PRESENT PLANS MUST BE REDRAWN AFTER CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING FIRM. ZANIN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS DIRECTLY TO DEPT ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. AS DEPT AWARE FROM OUR CONSTANT REMINDERS ON SUBJECT, DOHA'S LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS HAS SEVERELY IMPEDED EMBASSY'S SUBSTANTIVE, COMMERCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN FOULED UP ON ITINERARIES OF OFFICIAL VISITORS, UNABLE TO RESPOND TO URGENT MATTERS IN CONTEXT OF UNGA, HAMSTRUNG ON IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL MATTERS, AND PREVENTED FROM DOING TIMELY SPOT REPORTING ON OIL AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT AREA DEVELOPMENTS. NEEDLESS TO SAY, RECEIVING AND SENDING TELEGRAMS BY BI-WEEKLY COURIER POUCH IS LUDICROUS WAY TO DO BUSINESS. WE HAVE DONE BEST WE CAN UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES PRESSING EVERY VISITOR, INCLUDING NEA DEP ASST SECY SOBER, INTO NON-PRO COURIER SERVICE. KUWAIT, OTHER GULF POSTS AND EVEN BEIRUT AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATHENS HAVE BEEN "HONORED" BY OUR REQUESTS TO HANDLE COURIER-CARRIED DOHA TRAFFIC, AND WE APPRECIATE COOPERATION OF AREA POSTS. AS EXAMPLE OF OUR FRUSTRATING SITUATION THIS "IMMEDIATE" CABLE DRAFTED OCT 12 WILL BE PICKED UP BY COURIER OCT 16, DELIVERED TO KUWAIT OCT 17 AND HOPEFULLY REACH DEPT BY OCT 18--6 DAYS* DEPENDING ON COURIER SCHEDULE, MUCH OF OUR OUTGOING AND INCOMING "CABLE" TRAFFIC TAKES TWICE AS LONG IN "TRANSMISSION" TIME.

6. I ASSUME THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM IN AUTHORIZING THE FUNDS
REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALTERATIONS REQUIRED FOR TEMPORARY COMMO
INSTALLATION AND WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S PROMPT RESPONSE.
IT IS TIME FOR US TO PUT EXPANDED US PRESENCE IN QATAR IN MORE
REGULAR AND DIRECT CONTACT WITH REST OF WORLD.

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UNQTE KISSINGER

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